



Western Australia at a Glance 2013



Western Australia had an estimated population of 2,430,000 in June 2012, accounting for 11% of Australia’s population.

Western Australia has the largest land area (2,532,400 square kilometres) of any Australian state or territory. Its coastline of 12,500 km amounts to 34% of Australia’s total coastline.

The State’s capital, Perth, was founded on 12 August 1829 and the Greater Perth area contains over three quarters (78%) of Western Australia’s total population.

WA IN RELATION TO AUSTRALIA

	% of Australian total
Area	32.9
Coastline	34.0
Demography	
Estimated resident population (June 2012)	10.7
Labour force	
Employed persons (December 2012)	11.4
Unemployed persons (December 2012)	9.1
International Trade (Value)	
Imports (2011-12)	14.6
Exports (2011-12)	45.7



PEOPLE

ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION

	2011 ¹ '000	2012 ² '000
Males	1 183.3	1 225.0
Females	1 168.9	1 205.2
Persons	2 352.2	2 430.3
0-14 years	450.9	464.9
15-19 years	154.9	156.9
20-29 years	361.8	378.2
30-39 years	335.0	347.0
40-49 years	340.4	349.3
50-59 years	298.1	306.4
60-64 years	126.0	127.3
65 years and over	285.2	300.3
	2011¹ '000	2012² '000
Statistical Areas Level 4 - WA		
Perth - Inner	168.6	172.7
Perth - North East	232.0	240.1
Perth - North West	512.1	530.1
Perth - South East	458.6	476.1
Perth - South West	373.3	387.4
Mandurah	87.5	91.3
<i>Total Greater Perth</i>	<i>1 832.1</i>	<i>1 897.5</i>
Bunbury	162.3	166.9
Western Australia - Wheat Belt	132.7	134.6
Western Australia - Outback	225.1	231.3

1 As at 30 June, preliminary rebased estimates.

2 As at 30 June, preliminary estimates.

DEMOGRAPHY

	2010 no.	2011 no.
Births	31 424	32 259
Deaths	12 720	12 724
Marriages	12 684	12 665
Divorces	4 835	5 020
Crude rate (per 1,000 persons)¹		
Births	13.7	13.7
Deaths	5.5	5.4
Marriages	5.5	5.4
Divorces	2.1	2.1

1 Based on estimated resident population at 30 June.

POPULATION CENSUS (PROPORTION OF WA TOTAL)¹

	2006 %	2011 %
Birthplace		
Australia	65.3	62.9
England	8.9	8.6
New Zealand	2.4	3.2
South Africa	1.1	1.6
India	0.8	1.3
Scotland	1.2	1.2
Religious affiliation		
No Religion	22.9	25.5
Catholic	23.7	23.6
Anglican	20.4	18.8
Uniting Church	3.8	3.3
Christian, nfd	2.1	2.8

¹ Based on place of usual residence.

EDUCATION

	2011 no.	2012 no.
Full time students		
Government	236 387	244 874
Non-government	127 331	129 328
Schools		
Government	770	765
Non-government	301	301

WORKFORCE PARTICIPATION & WORKPLACE FLEXIBILITY

	2010 %
Proportion of employees¹ who:	
Were female	45.7
Worked full time	74.5
Currently employed less than 1 year	25.1
Private sector worker	78.8
Wanted to reduce their hours	23.2
Sometimes achieved work life balance	48.8
Rarely/never achieved work life balance	10.2
Had requested changes to their working arrangements ²	23.3
Were without paid leave entitlements	16.5

¹ And persons on long-term unpaid leave

² Within the last 12 months

LABOUR MARKET

	2011 '000	2012 '000
Employed persons	1 260.9	1 313.6
Unemployed persons	54.8	59.4
Total labour force¹	1 315.7	1 373.0
	2011 %	2012 %
Unemployment rate ¹	4.2	4.3
Participation rate ¹	68.5	69.2
	2011 '000	2012 '000
Employing industries²		
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	35.0	42.5
Mining	105.3	108.9
Manufacturing	90.8	95.8
Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services	14.2	22.3
Construction	121.0	128.1
Wholesale Trade	47.6	39.7
Retail Trade	126.6	134.2
Accommodation and Food Services	75.8	74.4
Transport, Postal and Warehousing	60.0	59.9
Information Media and Telecommunications	13.5	15.8
Financial and Insurance Services	28.3	30.1
Rental, Hiring and Real Estate Services	25.6	22.1
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	97.8	97.5
Administrative and Support Services	30.4	51.1
Public Administration and Safety	77.6	72.1
Education and Training	90.7	93.8
Health Care and Social Assistance	139.9	143.6
Arts and Recreation Services	22.6	22.3
Other Services	47.7	54.9
Total	1 250.3	1 309.1

1 December, Trend estimates.

2 November quarter, Original estimates.

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS¹

	2011 \$	2012 \$
Males	1 666.40	1 746.70
Females	1 226.10	1 277.60
Persons	1 523.90	1 590.60

1 Full time adult ordinary time earnings, November quarter. Original estimates.

ECONOMY

STATE ACCOUNTS¹

	2010/11 \$m	2011/12 \$m
Gross State Product	221 574	236 338
	\$	\$
Gross State Product per capita	95 573	99 065
	%	%
Largest contributing industries		
Mining	34.6	35.2
Construction	11.7	12.0
Manufacturing	5.3	5.2

¹ Chain volume measures

HOUSE PRICE INDEX¹

	2010/11 %	2011/12 %
Established homes	-1.1	-2.5
Project homes	2.5	1.9

¹ Percentage change from previous financial year.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX¹

	2010/11 %	2011/12 %
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	5.9	-3.4
Alcohol and tobacco	4.1	4.1
Clothing and footwear	4.5	0.3
Housing	3.0	4.2
Furnishings, household equipment and services	-0.6	0.5
Health	4.2	3.5
Transportation	2.8	0.7
Communication	0.5	0.9
Recreation and culture	0.1	-1.8
Education	5.2	6.8
Insurance and financial services	3.8	3.5
All groups	3.0	1.1

¹ Percentage change from previous financial year.

ECONOMY

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS

	2010/11 \$m	2011/12 \$m
Imports	25 955	35 082
Exports	112 171	120 534
Imports from:		
Singapore	2 464	4 232
United States	2 753	4 129
China	3 270	3 779
Exports to:		
China	47 241	55 002
Japan	20 716	22 841
Korea, Republic of	10 674	9 811
Major commodities exported:		
Iron ore	57 177	61 217
Gold bullion	13 398	15 603
Crude petroleum oils	11 056	11 073

INDUSTRY

RETAIL TRADE¹

	2010/11 \$m	2011/12 \$m
Food	10 975	11 546
Household goods	4 901	5 628
Clothing, footwear & personal accessories	1 832	1 797
Department stores	2 072	2 110
Other retailing	3 383	3 896
Cafes, restaurants and takeaway food services	3 968	4 757
Total	27 137	29 733

¹ Retail turnover in current prices, Trend estimates.

BUILDING

	2010/11 no.	2011/12 no.
New residential building		
Approved	20 937	18 955
Completed	24 255	19 629
Average value of new residential building	\$	\$
Approved	272 207	278 464
Completed	276 002	300 116
Total value of non-residential building	\$m	\$m
Approved	4 134.7	4 029.8
Completed	4 514.5	3 839.0

MINING

Production ¹	2010/11	2011/12
Iron ore (Mt)	397.6	455.1
Gold (t)	184	179
Exploration expenditure	\$m	\$m
Minerals	1 590.1	2 106.8
Petroleum	2 402.3	2 117.2

1 Source: Western Australian Mineral and Petroleum Statistics Digest 2011-12,
Department of Mines and Petroleum

AGRICULTURE

Crop production	2010/11	2011/12 ¹
Wheat for grain ('000t)	5 005	11 036
Barley for grain ('000t)	1 549	2 880
Livestock numbers	2010/11	2011/12 ¹
Sheep and lambs ('000)	14 000	13 729
Meat cattle ('000)	1 954	1 869

1 Preliminary estimates

TOURISM¹

	2010/11	2011/12
Short term overseas holiday travel	no.	no.
Resident departures	715 596	787 414
Visitor arrivals	246 303	237 804
Holiday arrivals - country of origin	%	%
United Kingdom and Ireland	20.5	18.6
Singapore	17.5	16.1
Rest of Europe	14.5	14.9
Holiday departures - main destination	%	%
Indonesia	43.0	41.6
Thailand	9.1	10.6
Malaysia	6.4	5.5

1 By air

ENVIRONMENT

CLIMATE

	Mean temperature				Mean annual rainfall (mm)
	Summer (January)		Winter (July)		
	Max (°C)	Min (°C)	Max (°C)	Min (°C)	
Perth Metro	31.0	18.0	18.4	7.6	728.3
Albany Town	22.8	15.1	15.7	8.1	928.8
Broome Airport	33.3	26.3	28.8	13.7	607.0
Bunbury	29.6	15.2	17.2	7.0	720.1
Esperance	26.1	15.6	17.2	8.3	616.1
Geraldton	29.1	18.4	19.8	10.5	446.8
Kalgoorlie Boulder Airport	33.7	18.3	16.7	5.0	265.2
Mandurah	29.0	18.6	17.4	10.6	653.2
Port Hedland Airport	36.4	25.6	27.1	12.3	317.3

Source: Bureau of Meteorology 2013, Perth, <http://www.bom.gov.au>.

SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS USED

°C	degrees Celsius	%	percent
\$	dollars	sq km	square kilometres
km	kilometres	'000	thousand
mm	millimetres	t	tonnes
WA	Western Australia	Mt	metric tonne
\$m	million dollars	no.	number

FOR MORE INFORMATION ...

INTERNET

www.abs.gov.au

The ABS website is the best place for data from all our publications and information about the ABS. All statistics on the ABS website can be downloaded free of charge.

INFORMATION AND REFERRAL SERVICE

Our consultants can help you access the full range of information published by the ABS that is available free of charge from our website.

Information tailored to your needs can also be requested as a 'user pays' service.

Specialists are on hand to help you with analytical or methodological advice.

PHONE: 1300 135 070

POST: Client Services, ABS
GPO Box 796
Sydney NSW 2001

EMAIL: client.services@abs.gov.au

WEB ADDRESS: www.abs.gov.au

Cat. no. 1306.5

Cover: Trades North, Clarkson

Source: JCY Architects and Urban Designers

© Commonwealth of Australia 2013

Produced by the Australian Bureau of Statistics